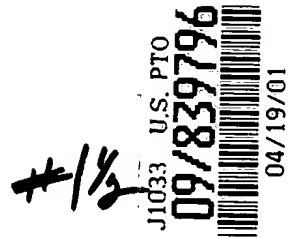


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Application of:

THIEL, Heinz-Jürgen; BECHER, Paul; ORLICH, Michaela

Serial No.: To be assigned                      Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Filed: Concurrently herewith              Examiner: To be assigned

For: PESTIVIRUS MUTANTS AND VACCINES CONTAINING THE SAME

Corresponding to: EP 00201421.5, filed April 21, 2000

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

April 20, 2001

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. These references were cited in the European Search Report. Copies of the Search Report and cited references are enclosed.

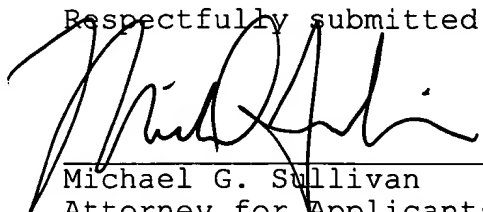
No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the last of (1) issuance of a first official action on the merits and (2) expiration of the three month period following filing of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the

information be considered during the prosecution of this application and that the cited documents be listed on the front page of any patent issuing from this application.

The Patent Office is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2334 for any fee which it deems to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,



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Michael G. Sullivan  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 35,377

Attorney Docket No. 2000.552 US

Akzo Nobel Patent Department  
1300 Piccard Drive, Suite 206  
Rockville, Maryland 20850  
Tel: (301) 948-7400  
Fax: (301) 948-9751

MGS:lcf  
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